SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28. A despatch to the Coff from Phoenix, Ariz., says: Whitelaw Reid, ex-Minister to France, refused to talk about the Venezuelan con-troversy when the telegraphic abstracts of the correspondence were first received. He said he was unwilling to form an opinion, even much less express it, until he had an opportunity to see the full text of the correspondence. To-day the ex-Minister was more willing to be communicative. He was asked by the Call correspondent whether there was any possibility that the United States could make an alliance with France and Russia against England, assuggested in Eastern papers. "At present," he replied, "not the slightest. They are both against us; not that they love England, but that they despise the Monroe doctrine. If we should get into a war with England, and a general European war over Turkey or Egypt or China should break out about the same time, then France and Russia would be with us. But even then they would not be in favor of the Monroe doctrine, unless on the principle that

"You do not believe, like some of our papers, that the Monroe doctrine is good, binding inter-

any club is good enough to hit your enemy

What rubbieh all this talk is about the Monroe doctrine being international law! Who ever heard that it was? It is a tremendously good American doctrine, which we have backed up with tolerably fair success for threequarters of a century-almost as good an American doctrine as the republican form of government and it is about as repugnant to every European Government. There has not been a moment since it was first advanced when the nations of Continental Europe, without exception, have not been solidly opposed to it.

Why should not they? The two American continents constitute au extraordinary attractive pasture. The Monroe doctrine is simply a notice to all monarchie to keep off the grass, and the United States is the big policeman with a club standing by to enforce the notice. European nations, up to this time, have obeyed it pretty well, but what nonsense to suppose that they like it and would accept it as any way authoritative, unless compelled to. They are all land hungry—all crazy to be dividing up weak countries like Turkey and China, or to be colonizing barbarous ones like Africa. Over the whole stretch of the two American continents the Monroe doctrine stands as a notice not to trespass. There isn't a nation in Europe that does not resent being told to keep out; but there is not one either that will fight us in order to get in. They have too many chances just now to fight nearer home, and are too much afraid they may have to embrace some of them.

"No, we are not going to have any wur, if things are weil managed. A little different turn to the message would have maintained our attitude just as well, created less sharm, and given England a better chance to get out. The message is splendidly American, but Mr. Cleveland is not strong in diplomacy, and diplomatic situations which compel either the humillation of our adversary or war with him are always to be avoided if possible. Nevertheless, with time and a little common sense on both sides we shall get out without fighting. Phe whole affair, though deplorable in some of its present aspects, will turn out to be a good thing. European nations will realize at last that the Monroe doctrine is more than a phrase, and will all learn, as Louis Napoleon did in 1865, that the United States cannot be trified with about American interests.

"There ought to be another excellent good way authoritative, unless compelled to. They 1865, that the United States cannot be trifled with about American interests.

"There ought to be another excellent good thing resulting from it. This ought to give the crown to Mr. Biaine's splendid work in the Pan-American Congress, the responsive treaties and his other efforts not merely to strengthen the military ties between us and the other American republics, but to knit us far more closely with them in intimate and constant commercial intercourse. Senator Allen of Nebraska has already offered a wise resolution to that end. This is the colden opportunity for our merchants to extend our trade to every quarter of Central and South America, and never before could they have had such a welcome as now awaits them, if only

America, and never before could they have had such a welcome as now awaits them, if only our diplomacy and our commercial enterprise can work together to seize it.

"Don't mistake me, however, about the international obligations of the Monroe doctrine, Europe, to be sure, has never acknowledged it. But England ought to recognize and obey it. She inspired it originally, rejoiced over its declaration, and made haste then to accept it. Lord Salisbury admits as much even now, but only maintains that since then the times have changed, or, as Disraell once said, more cynically, when likewise convicted of an inconsistency, 'a good many things have happened since then. wise convicted of an inconsistency, 'a good many things have happened since then.'

"They are right: a good many things have happened. One of them is that the United Nates has fought a great civil war in the face of the scarcely disguised hostility of both the British and French empires and has nobly reunited the warring sections. Another is that the loose-jointed feeble infant among nations, which this country was in Monroe's time has now double Great Britain's population. No doubt our coasts are defenceless, but so is Canada. Our cities could be bombarded, but so could England's commerce be driven from the ocean by American printeers. If there were a war we should be sore to have more than one Bull Run at the outset. But our people did not stop fighting at

be sure to have more than one Bull Run at the outset. But our people did not stop fighting at shall Run. In the long run it is not to England's interest to attack us, and she won't do it unleas by sakward diplomacy we leave her no homorable way to avoid it."

"Do you think there is any justice in her boundary claims?"

"Who can tell? So far as I know the English side never has been accessible, even briefly, until Lord Salisbury's present very adroit and skilful letter. In 1890 Gen. Guzman Blanco, then Minister of Venezuela, had to leave Paris before the arrival of his successor and desired to leave the legation in my hands, and our State Department gave me the authority to accept it. Gen. Guzman Blanco, who had been President and Minister to England and Minister to France, was at that time in opposition. His ment gave une the authority to accept it. Gen. Gazman Blanco, who had been Prosident and Minister to England and Minister to France, was at that time in opposition. His statues had been thrown down by the mob at Caraona. His property had been selzed and there was every reason why he should dislike and be willing to thwart the new Government. Yet even then the one thing which seemed nearest his heart was that Venezuela should lose nothing through his departure in her boundary controversy with Great Britain. He spent hours in explaining to me his view of it, and I am bound to say he impressed me strongly. I never had another opportunity to see a full presentation of the other side, nor do I know that anybody has until Lord Salisbury sent the second of his letters in the present correspondence. You will notice how flatly he seems to contradict some of the statements in Mr. Olney's resume of the case."

"Which seems to you to have the better of it?"
"Oh, that is a question of fact rather than of argument. Mr. Olney's letter is uncommonly well done. It is a bity he could not have written an equally strong reply to Lord Salisbury's latest, with facts to back it up, instead of letting the matter get into Mr. Cleveland's hands and into a position which comes very near being a diplomatic cut desac. It was not a question in which Great Britain wants to fight us, and it would be bad policy to put her where she must. A needless war between two such mations would be almost the greatest of human crimes.

"The present situation seems to be about this: At the end of very long negotiations the British Government is willing to arbitrate about a part of the disputed territory, not all. It was open to us to continue the argument with further facts and try to show that the argument ought to be extended to cover the whole question, saying meanwhile (If thought needful) that pending the necotiations any step to force Venezuela's aubmission to the British claim could not be regarded but as an unfriendly act.

"Instead of this the Pres

"Instead of this the President says substantially since you won't agree to arbitrators to determine the whole boundary we will arbitrate it ourselves, and practically intimates that we will then see to it that our decision is obeyed. That is a tolerably hard pill for any self-respecting nation to swallow. Still, we have always to remember that in matters of foreign policy there ought not to be divided ranks behind our constitutional leader."

"Does Lord Salisbury's latest letter shake your belief in the justice of the Venezuelan claim as to the boundary?"

"No, not seriously; it is again a question of facts. Where the statements conflict nobody can determine without finding out which statement is accurate. I can only say that Gen, Guzman Bianco's presentation of the case seemed to be very much the same with that which I now read more fully, and perhaps even more ably set

more fully, and perhaps even more ably set forth in Secretary Oiney's letter. Part of Lord Sallsbury's reply is special blending. Still there are some statements of fact which certainly used to be met.

are some statements of the very nature of "But after all there is in the very nature of "But after all these is incertainty about those "But after all there is in the very matter the case the greatest uncertainty about those old Spanish boundaries. Why, it was only ten years earlier that the beginning of the present Vanezueian questoristat we ourselves were in a most

ludicrous belwiderment as to the old Spanish lines, which must fix our own boundaries here in the Southwest. Mr. Jefferson himself did not know that he had bought Texas along with Louisiana, though he had; and he was sure me had bought West Florida with it, though he had not.

"Mr. Monroe himself, twenty years before he was proclaiming the Monroe doctrine, was engaged in Paristrying to convince Talleyrand and Napoleon that the Louisiana purchase of the year before, instead of being limited by the Therville River, actually included Mobile and stretched to the Aupalachicola, Ills associate, Livingston, asked Talleyrand what were the eastern boundaries of Louisiana, and Talleyrand, with a good-natured sneer, replied: 'I do not know, You must take it as we did.' Hut what did you mean to take? demanded Lavingston, and Talleyrand replied again. I do not know, Thereupon, a little inter, Livingston was found cooperating with Monroe, in urging that we should chain that Louisiana extended to the Appalachicola, and with 'a little display of force,' especially if Spain should be emaged in a European war, we should get it.

"All this uncertainty was about the Spanish boundaries in our own country. France and Spain were treated to the spectacle of the United States, through its Ministers, Monroe and Livingston, and through its Secretary of State, Madison, solemnly insisting that Napoleon had sold us west Florida, when he had not even chaimed it, and when we had no more right to it than we had to Patagonia or Madagascar.

"Yet this was in our own country and in a long-settled region, How much greater would be the natural uncertainty about the same time as to Spanish boundaries on the southern continent in unsettled and largely unexplored regions covered with dense forests?

"The Government of Thomas Jefferson expected to get west Florida by 'a little display of force, especially if Spain should happen at that time to be engaged in a European war. Human nature is very much the same in both the great would be judicious, and wha

WILLIAM A. BOOTH DEAD.

Widely Known in Finance and for His Re-

William A. looth, who was for many years President of the Third National Bank, died at his home in Englewood, N. J., yesterday. While Mr. Booth was very well known in financial circles in this country, his work in behalf of religious and benevolent projects won him still greater distinction. He had long been identified with active work in connection with the Presbyterian Church, and was much interested In its foreign missions, especially those in the Turkish empire, where he had travelled extensively. At various times he had been President of the trustees of the Syrian Protestant College at Beirut, of the trustees of the Robert

dent of the trustees of the Syrian Protestant College at Heirut, of the trustees of the Robert College of Constantinopic, of the American Seamen's Friend Society, of the American Seamen's Friend Society, of the American Street Society of Boston, and of the American and Foreign Christian Union and the Rible House at Constantinopic, Mr. Booth was born in Stratford, Conn., on Nov. 6, 1805. He came to Now York in 1821, and became a member of the tea importing firm of Tomlinson & Booth, the name of which was afterward changed to Tomlinson, Booth & Edgar. He also engaged in the sugar refining business under the firm name of Booth & Edgar. Mr. Booth was one of the organizers of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Company, a trustee of the Ohio and Missussippi Railroad, and a director of the Cincinnati, Lafayette and Indianapolis Railroad. He was elected President of the Third National Bank in 1878, but in 1892 he resigned this office and retired from active business. He had been a trustee of the New York Life Insurance Company Since 1803. Four sons and two daughters survive him. Of the sons the Rev. Dr. Robert Russell Booth has for many years been the pastor of a church in this city, and another, the Rev. Dr. Henry M. Hooth, is the Fresident of the Autornal Frederick A. Booth, who is in the real estate business, are his other sons. For several years Mr. Booth has fived at Englewood. The funeral will take place on Tuesday morning from the Fourteenth Street Presbyterian Church, this city.

EKSTROM SHOOTS HIMSELF. Previously He Writes a Letter About Walk-

Victor Ekstrom, a Swedish tailor, aged 32, sent two bullets into his breast yesterday afternoon at his furnished room at 73 Hudson avenue, Brooklyn, and is in a dying condition at the Cumberland Street Hospital. He had been out of work for some time and despondent. He

This was national lady:
I any wish you linek and presperity. You know I am wronged. The only way to gerry is to walk over numan blood.

P. S.—May you be happy. May you always remember that you have wronged me. The following was addressed to "Mr. Man-

I write to you to tell you that I am going to leave. As you are a friend of mine, I nope that you will ex-cuse me for leaving you in such a hurry. The following was addressed to the public: My last and only wish is that nobody who knows me will say anything against me and my character.

Ekstrom has no relatives in this country.

Policeman Dougherty of the Weschester station found an old woman wandering around aimlessly about 5 o'clock last evening on Westchester avenue, near the Clausen's l'oint road. All she could tell about herself was that she was Catherine Finkle. He took her to the stawas untherme Finkle. He took her to the sta-tion house at West Chester. About the same time the Finkles of 1600 East 168th street were hunting about vainly for this same old woman who had disappeared from home early in the afternoon. About 8 o'clock at night they re-ported her absonce at the Morrisania police station, and there learned where she was. She was afterward sent to her home. She is 303 years oid.

Kate Blechel Goes Free and Will Marry. Kate Biechel, who was under indictment for murder in the first degree for the alleged killing of her new-born babe, was vesterday discharged on her own recognizance by Justice Culien of on her own recognizance by Justice Cullen of the Supreme Court in Brooklyn. Her trial for the crime a month ago resulted in a disagreement of the jury, ten being in favor of acquittal and two voting for manslaughter in the second degree. It was on motion of District Attorney Ridgway that the woman was discharged. The young man with whom Miss Bitchell was intimate has clung faithfully to her in her trouble and furnished the money for her defence. He escorted her from the court room yesterday, and it is understood they will be married to-day.

Two Children Missing.

A general alarm for two children who were missing from West Chester village was sent out by the police last night. They are Henry and by the ponce last night. They are Henry and Edward Baxter, aged respectively 7 and 5 years, and are the sons of Edgar L. Baxter of Middle-town road, near the Boolevard in West Chester, Mr. and Mrs. Baxter went out together in the afternoon yesterday, leaving the two boys play-ing in their yard. When they returned at 8:30 o'chook hast night the children were gone and could not be found.

Robert F. Walsh Dead.

Robert F. Walsh died in Bellevue Hospital esterday of pneumonia after a brief illness. He was born in county Kinsale, Ireland, in 1858, and was educated at Dublin University. He wrote several books and essays on brithyology and a He of Charles Stewart Parnell. He wrote also many articles for American magazines.

R. T. Lowndes to Wed Miss Goff.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Dec. 28.-The anouncement has been made of the engagement of Richard T. Lowndes, the millionaire merchant and capitalist, and brother of Gov. sleet Lowndes of Maryland, to Miss May Goff, sister of Judge Nathan (1997).

New York A. C's Begular Ticket.

The New York A. C.'s ticket was posted inst night, as follows:
President, James Whitely: Vice-President, Thomas, I. Watson, Secretary, John C. Guilch, Triasurer, harder, the diver Carsan, Bugh d. Baxter, Gov-erie to serve two years, B. F. o'l camper, W. S. Bail, with, Rosert D. Whithrop, Seneral D. Powell, Benja-nin C. Whitanis, James A. Lyuca, Hotsert M. Thomp-ton, and Douglas H. n.;

Where Yesterday's Fires Were. A. M. 9 30, 1.400 Total avenue, chimney fire, no

damage: 10:40, 20 floward street, Stewart, Warren & stion of to, damage \$10 to, 22 floward street, Siewart, Warren & to, damage \$10 Tr. M. 12:05, 355 Washington street, J. C. Willard, damage \$10.12:35, 1,361 Second avenue, Rhinelander statement. Turning the state damage \$2.0; 1,10, 638 Eleventh avenue, so to be ow read \$2.0; 1,50, 1,361 Second avenue, Rhinelander state of the sta

WARFARE OF THE CUBANS.

CONDITIONS THAT HAVE FAVORED THE INSURRECTION'S SPREAD.

Martinez Campon's Vain Fight Against a Foe He Caunot Reach - His Policy of Pre-

serving the Material Wealth of the Island CHENFURGOS, Dec. 21. The question is often asked, Why is it that with an army of 90,000 men and more Spain has not been able to sup-press the insurrection? It is conceded that Spain has sent some of her best Generals here, and as the General-in-Chief, Martinez Campos, her most noted and successful commander. Opposed to these forces are the insurrectionists lest by Maximo Gemez, José and Antonio Marco, Bartolome Masso, and a host of smaller people whose names are practically unknown outside of the island.

The first difficulty is the Island of Cuba it-self. The railway system leading out of Ha-vana runs easterly through the centre of the island for some 200 miles, with spurs running north to Matanzas, Cardenas, Sagua, and Remedies, and one running south to Clenfueges, Practically the most eastern point reached by vail in the centre of the island is Santa Clara, the capital of the province of the same name, which is also known as Las Villas. East of Santa Clara are the provinces of Puerto Princips and Santiago de Cuba, these two provinces containing considerably more than half the territory of the island, and a line dividing the island at Santa Clara, the railway terminus, shows a greater length to the east than to the west. It is true there are a few rallroads east of Santa Clara, but they are short lines run-ning from scaports a little way back into the country, and in no case are they of value for the movement of troops. The insurrection started in the eastern part of the island, and for a number of months was confined there, but it gradually passed westward from Santiago to Puerto Principe, and to-day is in Las Villas. Except for a few macadamized roads leading out of Havana there is not what a New Yorker would call a road in Cuba, and the only wheel vehicles that one sees outside of the cities are carrettas, or ox carts, drawn by four or eight oxen, according to the load and the distance to be traversed. The countryman rides a horse or a mule when he has to co anywhere, and where there is no track he cuts a path for himself through the underbrush with his machete. These countrymen know every road and path in their neighborhood, many of them being cattle herders, particularly in Puerto Principe, and sometimes doing a little cattle stealing on their own account. In San-

them being cattle herders, particularly in Puerto Principe, and sometimes doing a little cattie stealing on their own account. In Santiago the country is extremly rough and mountainous and cut up by streams. In the raity season, or until the end of October, every stream is flooded, every swamp is a lake, and every depression a pond. There are no bridges of any description, and if a man comes to a river and it is too wide to cross, he must foliow it up until he finds a ford, if he persists in making the journey.

It was in such a country as this that the Spanish troops had first to meet the enemy, and it must be conceded that they were not able to keep the rebels from advancing toward the west. At the beginning of the insurgents were mounted, while, on the other hand, more than 95 per cent. of the Spanish force was if fantry. The insurgents knew every trail and cross-road, while the Spaniards had to depend for guides on the natives that they could induce to serve them, and as this service was requited with death if they were caught by insurgents, guides were somewhat difficult to find. Look for a mountent at the conditions which the Spanish soldier has had to encounter in waging this guerrilla warfare. First, he is unmounted, he has no tent, he carries on his back his bianket and 150 cartridges, his Mauser rifle; he is ignorant of the country, as even the best maps show few of the reads, and in his unacclimated condition, with his heavy load, he cannot make a very long march. He has proved himself brave, patient, and uncomplaining, and it is not his fault that he has not made a more brilliant showing. Whenever he has met the enemy he has done, his duty. On the other hand, the insurgent has been fighting on his own ground; he rides with his blanket strapped to his saddle, his rifle on his back; his base of supply is any pig or chicken or potato patch he meets with, and any stray ox or cow affords him a dinner. The insurgents do not fight or travel in large bands, though they do concentrate at a given point, and t

to send out detachments with sufficient speal to cut off or flank the insurgents, and it has been impossible for the small bodies of infantry to pursue a mounted body that separates into groups of single horsemen.

Another and importat cause that has contributed to the delay in putting down the insurgertion is the system of warfare which has been pursued by Gen. Martinez Campos, and which reflects great credit upon himself and the Spanish Governmet, paradoxical as this may seem. When Gen. Campos was called upon to again take command of the semy of Spain in Cuba, he had reached his sixty-fourth year and he certainly had the right to consider himself as entitled to enjoy his case for the remainder of his life. His fame was well known throughout the world.

He had restored a dynasty, he was the intimate adviser of the Queen Regent, he had declined titles and emolyments, and in any future conflict he had everything to lose and little to gain, and certainly very little to gain in a partisan war. Nevertheless, moved by patriotic impulse, he obeyed the call and came to Cuba. At once he announced that his efforts would be to put down the insurrection, but at the same time to preserve the material wealth of the country. One can see what a task he set himself when one realizes that this is an agricultural country. Had Gen. Campos started in for a "march to the sea" from end to end of the Island, he might have suppressed the insurrection in a little time, but he would have left behind him a desert and a conquered land without population or wealth, though he returned to Spain a conquerer. Instead of this he has continued to carry out his policy of preservation, he has scattered his army, garrisoned towns and c ties, put detachments at the various sugar factories, where the managers would receive them, and constantly holding the door open, has been doing his best to pacify as well as defeat the insurgents. This course he has continued now with a desired a war of extermination.

If all the officers were animated by the same

course of the war might have been different. The dividing up of the forces into small detachments has widely separated the battalions, and it frequently happens that at regimental headquarters there are the commanding officer, the staff, the band, and perhaps 200 men, while the remaining 1.800 men—a regiment being composed of 2.000—are scattered about, some detachments commanded by Captains and others of twenty to thirty men by Second Lieutenauts. As these separate commands some detachments commanded by Capitalis and others of twenty to thirty men by Second Lieutenauts. As these separate commands are rarely visited by the commanding officer, the sub-lieutenant too often does as he chooses, leaving the serious work to his sergeant, and if he indea a soft billet his soldiers are apt to seel title serious work. This is particularly the case where the rommanding officer is indolent. I do not mean to say that this is the case with all the regiments. On the contrary, there are notable exceptions, and in some sections of the country great activity has been shown by junior as well as senfor officers. Not being supplied with tents and the officers not liking to skeep in the open air—and it is cold here now very often when the detachments go out they march to some place where they can be sure of finding houses or make a military promenade, returning before nightfall to their base of supply.

There is still another cause that operates to layor of the insurgents, and that is the panic lato which the general population has failon. The President of the Cuban republic, in a letter published bec. 3, says:

"We have the people of Cuba with us, and our treasury is by no means empty, for the larger number of property owners of the island are paying us taxes. Many Spaniardiswishing our respect and protection are included in this list.

I have before me as I write a letter sixped by

I have before me as I write a letter signed by logo, commander of the district (of the insur-I have before me as I write a letter spaces by Rego, commander of the district (of the insurrectionist force of course), politely demanding the sam of \$3,000 from an estate owner under pain of baving his property destroyed. To my knowledge a number of estate owners in this district have paid, hoping thereby to be pro-

A cocoa with rich chocolate flavor, retaining all the nutritious and fat-producing properties, yet not distressing to the most delicate, can be produced. Proven in

tected, but their faith in insurgent honor has been rudely shaken by the order of Maximo Gomes, that all cane fields shall be fired and no crop made, and in the past few weeks I have seen the fires destroying the fields of these confiding men. At this season of the year, when cane is dry and the north wind blows, one man with a candle can destroy thousands of dollars' worth of property. The only way to meet this danger is by having a force of workingmen, protected by soldiers or armed men, who can be at once brought to the fire, and put it out before the damage is serious. Owing to the heavy dews cane will not light during the night or until the sun is well up; consequently it is a very usual device to light a candle, protected from the wind, to burn for several hours, thus giving the rebel time; to get well away before his deed is discovered. It is said that in Manzanillo, where Masso is in command, faith has been kept with those that have contributed to the coffers of the insurgents. His Subject "Municipal Government" He

Lohengrin " in the Afternoon and " Tann-

THE SUN, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1895.

hanser" in the Evening. "Lohengrin" was played yesterday afternoon with the same cast as on the previous Saturday night, saving for the replacing of Mme. Nordica for Mile. Beeth as Elso, a change that strengthened the performance appreciably on its vocal side. Nordica sang throughout with beautiful taste and discretion, but at moments here and there her voice showed signs of overwork, taking on at such times a slight reediness of tone. It would be a distinct kindness to our American prima dona to suggest that she do not sing I side too often. More than one levely voice has gone to pieces on the rocks of Wagner. A few rare voices have the cast-iron strength to resist the strain that the Bayrouth master puts on the vocal cords, but the majority must inevltably suffer from the conflict.

Signor Cremoniai's Lohengrin has not developed in maturity since the previous week, and one of the first steps the young artist should take if he desires that we should accept as satisfactory his impersonation of the Knight of the Swan is to consult some ompetent authority on the make-up of his head and face. At present he is entirely too blond, and his hair and beard are so palpably artificial as to give him somewhat the appearance of an overgrown boy masquerading as a man. His Lohengrin is, therefore, deficient in authority. Otherwise Cremonini shows distinct merit in his performance, his singing, especially in the third and fourth acts, being decidedly effective by reason of the earnestness and sympathetic quality with which it is imbased.

bued.

Plancon was again magnificent as King Henry, his rendering of that part being alone sufficient to stamp the occasion with a red letter. Mantelli, Ancona, and Vaschetti were all highly efficient, as were also chorus and orchestra, the performance as a whole going with admirable smoothness.

Wagner was complete master of the situation yesterday with "Tannhäuser" in the evening, supplementing the "Lohengrin" of the afternoon. The performance of the former was on the whole highly meritorious. Lola Beeth was a satsifactory, if not a great Elizabeth, as on a previous occasion, and Miss Tranbmann, who assumed the part of to be credited with a distinct success

In appearance and action her terms was somewhat too nineteenth century, but her voice met the requirements of the music with ease and excellent dramatic effect, the shortcomings of her vocalization being much less apparent in the declamatory music of Wagner than in the moother phrases of older composers.

Herr Wallnoefer, though certainly not graceful in movement or imposing in presence as Tannhäuser, gave a capital vocal interpretation to his rôle, his voice rising with case to every demand made upon it at times with thrilling effect. With such a truly splendid vocal organ as

With such a truly splendid vocal organ as Herr Wallnoefer possesses, he should have a brilliant career on the operatic stage, provided he will bring his intelligence to bear on the cultivation of the qualities in which he is at present lacking.

The Wolfram of Sig. Kachmann affords that keen pleasure which comes from the contemplation of ripe artistic effort, backed by a voice at once powerful and sympathetic. His movements on the stage might well serve as a model for many would-be actors, so dignified are they and so full of that repose which is one of the chiefest beauties of true art.

Herr Bucha was a satisfactory Landgrare, and the minor rôles were all in competent hands, while the plicrims and the ladies and gentlemen who come a-visiting in the second act were unusually tuneful. Herr Seldi conducted with his customary ability, and the enthusiasm was lively, considering the unaccountably small size of the audience.

The Damrosch Troune in the West

The Damrosch German opera company has received high and constant praise from Western papers. Those of Chicago have been particularly generous. One of them humorously deacribes Mr. Damrosch as sitting comfortably in a box on one occasion when "Die Walkure" was given, enjoying the entertainment immensely, while Herr Lohse, his assistant, conducted. Damrosch has won especial encomiums for his ensemble work, his attention to the general effect, and the exclusion of any star system of putting artists forward to win personal favor and applause. Herr Max Alvary has been singing Siegfried, Sicomund, and Lohengrin in the West with the Damrosch German Opers Company. The Western papers have been full of judicious comme nt apon his ferformances. Among them were the upon his ferformances. Among them were the following, taken at random from various journals: "Alvary has both natural and acquired qualifications for Wagnerian roles." Herr Alvary showed his wonted nobility of characterization—he is dramatically much developed, while his voice is more mellow as well as more brilliant." "To Siegmund he brings a nicety of fluish and a devotion to details." "Alvary's Sirgmund is a statuesque, yet thoroughly human creation, and his delicacy does much to ploss over the vulgarity of the first act." "Alvary is the same virile great dramatic sincer as in days the same virile great dramatic singer as in days of yore. He made himself the dominating figure of the presentation, the central figure in a performance in which the general standard was gratifyingly high."

GEORGIA REPUBLICANS MEET. Preparing to Elect Belegates to the Na-

tional Convention. AUGUSTA, Ga., Dec. 28.-The Republican State Executive Committee to-day called a State Convention to meet in Atlanta the last Wednesday of April next to choose dele gates to the next National Republican Convention. Chairman A. E. Buck controlled the committee meeting and turned extrolled the committee meeting and turned ex-Gov. Bullock down. The committee's attention was called to a recent interview given out by Gov. Bullock while in New Yors. Gov. Bullock criticised the Republicans of the South severely. Col. Buck tost no time in re-plying to Gov. Bullock and defending the posi-tion of the bosses. Resolutions were adopted by the committee praising Buck and condemning the action of Gov. Bullock. Col. Buck was reelected Chairman of the committee, and J. H. Deveaux of Savannah Secretary. reelected Chairman of the comm Deveaux of Savannah Secretary.

Thought His House Had Been Robbed. A messenger boy rushed into the West Thirtieth street police station at midnight last night, and asked the Sergeant to send a couple of detectives to 208 Madison avenue, where he said a robbery had been committed. Four de-tectives were sent to the house, and on arriving tectives were sent to the house, and on arriving there were met by Henry S. Kingsley, who in formed them that a mistake had been made.

Mr. Kingsley applogized for calling them, and said that yesterday morning he placed \$700 in a bureau drawer. Last evening he could not find it where he had placed it, and sent for the police. After notifying the police Mrs. Kingsley concluded to search for the money, and found it stowed away in another drawer.

Masked Men Hold Up a Rallroad Agent. TOLEDO, O., Dec. 28,-J. E. Barber, agent for the Toledo, St. Louis and Kansas City Railroad at Waterville, O., was held up by three masked men this morning, who, after stabbing him and wounding him with a revolver, ransacked the wounding him with a record to a station, securing \$65.

Harber made a plucky fight against the desperadoes, and had two of them whipned when the third attacked him with a knife and platel.

Hurious Russell's Curlous Pumpkin.

From the Indianapolis Sentine.

From the Indianapolis Sentine.

Wanash, Dec. 24.—A freak of nature which is exciting a great deal of curiosity in this city is presented in a pumpkin belonging to Hurious Russell, who last October purchased this particular pumpkin with others, and placed them in his ceilar. To-day the vegetable, a large one, was cut open, and to the surprise of Russell there was found a small pumpkin vine shooting out from the seeds, leaves on the vine being nearly two inches long. The pumpkin was perfectly sound, and the seeds seemed to have taken root in the flesh of the vegetable, though it is incomprehensible that the vine should have grown without either light or air, but Mr. Russell has the pumpkin and the vine to prove his statement.

ROOSEVELT ON HIS WORK.

THE POLICE COMMISSIONER TALKS TO PHILADELPHIA REFORMERS.

Declares that There Was a Fair Elec-tion in ex-Justice Divter's District This Fail-Politics and Our Police Force. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 28. - Theodore Roosevelt, the President of New York's Police Board addressed a largely attended mass meeting in the Academy of Music to-night. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Citizens'

Republican Committee, which has been organ-ized, with ex-Minister to Italy William Potter at its head, to raise the standard of the Philadelphia City Councils. Mr. Roosevelt snoke upon "Municipal Govern-ment," and he illustrated his experience as the

head of New York's Police Commission. Before the meeting Mr. Roosevelt was entertained at dinner at the Union League. In his address to-night Mr. Roosevelt said:

"We should demand of our representatives, whether Councilmen, whether executive officers or what not, that when they deal with questions of franchises of any kind they shall have an eye single to the public interests. See that none but good men, none but honest men, are put up for office, and do not allow yourselves on any plea to support any man, no matter to what party he belongs, if you have good reason to believe from his public actions that he has acted in defiance

of the elementary principle of honesty.
"We, in New York, have had to deal with the quations of public franchises for street railroads and all that. There was one of our councilmanic bodies that behaved with such exces-

roads and all that. There was one of our councilmanic bodies that behaved with such excessive liberality that those of them that did not end in Sing Sing took a prolonged soujourn in Canada.

Mr. Roosevelt then referred to the recent victory of Tammany, pointed out errors that the reformers had made, and urged his hearers to guard against such mistakes. He dwelt at length upon his experiences as the head of the New York Police Department, and told how laws had been enforced, particularly the closing of salions on Sunday. He continued:

"Never before in the history of New York have we had as fair an election as under the present police force. We have in New York a new retured statesman named Judge Paddy' Divver, and his district has always been noted for the tunultuous entiusiasm with which the voter voted; and, being men of great liberality of views on such questions when they got interested they would often yot everal times on the same day. This year we cut down the vote in Judge Divver's district to just two-thirds of what it ever was before, and every honest man in that district had a right to vote, too,"

The speaker declared that the best service he he could render the Republican party was to

The speaker declared that the best service he he could render the Republican party was to take the police out of polities. He narrated instances of promotions having been made in which polities did not figure. Mr. Roosevelt concluded:

which posities did not figure. Mr. Roosevelt concluded:

"We have appointed hundreds of men after the most rigid kind of civil service examination, without knowing the polities of one in a hundred of them, and utterly disregarding the polities of the one whom we knew. We have now, I will guarantee, the finest set of men they have ever had in a police force in New York city.

have ever had in a police force in New York city.

"Now, when I tell you that to take the questions of appointments and removals out of polities is a good thing. I am not speaking from a theoretical standpoint: I am speaking practically, as a Police Commissioner who has had personal experience with it. I know it can be done, and I know it is infinitely good that it should be done." Long cheering greeted Mr. Roosevelt as he concluded his address,

RATTLED THE BONES FOR A MINE Property Valued at \$100,000 Staked on s Game of Dice. From the Helena Independent.

A silver mine changed hands yesterday on the result of a dice game between R. A. Reil and Pat Weish. Each owned a one-half interest in the Belle of Clancy, in Lump Guich. The mine was worth considerable, for it was one of the properties that are termed "promising prospects" by those who own them. Considerable development work has been done, and there is already a good streak of ore, although not as much as the owners thought they ought to have. In discussing the development of the mine they found they could not agree on some important matters of policy. There was a deadlock, and with the prospect that it would not be broken they decided that it would be best for both if the property were all held by one man.

"Let us ratile the bones for it," suggested Welsh.

"What shall it be?" was Mr. Rell's propert

Welsh. "What shall it be?" was Mr. Bell's prompt

Weish.

"What shall it be?" was Mr. Bell's prompt really.

"Three shakes, horses." Mr. Weish thought would be a about the thing. Mr. Bell ophinsophically reflected that what was sauce for the goose was sauce for the gander. To be sure there might be luck in the "rocky road to Imbin." or in "drop dead," or is "baseball dice," or "noker dice," as they play the game in California, but it would be as likely to be luck for Mr. Weish as for Mr. Bell, and after considering a moment he said that "three shakes, horses," was good enough for him.

They dropped into Staff & Opheim's and called for the bones. They were handed to Mr. Bell, and he took the first rattle at them. On the first look threw three aces, and on each sunceeding throw another ace came to keep that one company. Five aces were so good that Mr. Bell reposed in confidence while he awaited the result of the first horse. Nor was his confidence misplaced. His opponent had but three sixes, the best he could do. Mr. Weish, as is the custom, kent the dice how and shook again.

"Four sixes," he said, as he picked up the dice and handed the box along. "That's good enough this time. You can't shake five of a kind every time."

Mr. Bell couldn't. He managed to get a pair of fives, having split a pair of deuces in the first place because he thought they weren't good enough, it was "horse and..."

Blow in the box," said Mr. Welsh to Charley.

"Blow in the box," said Mr. Welsh to Charley.

Then Mr. Bell tried with all his might. The result was four fives.

"Blow in the box," said Mr. Welsh to Charley Snedaker, who was refereeing the game. Mr. Snedaker, who was refereeing the game. Mr. Snedaker compiled. He also made a few mysterions passes over the box, and muttered an incantation taught him by a medicine man down on the banks of Lake Victoria Nyanna.

With a smile of confidence Mr. Welsh took the cylinder in his hands again. "They have got to come now," he said, as he tipped the yories out. They rolled across the face of the showcase and settled down, while both the participants tried to look as if there wasn't \$100,000 at stake.

"Five aces," said the referee.

"That settles it," said Mr. Bell.
"It was that breath that did the business," said Mr. Welsh, joyfully.

The deed will be signed to-day.

Hypnotism in Surgery

From the Ballimore American.

A striking example of the efficacy of hypnotism as an adjunct to surgical science was demonstrated within the past few days at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. This case—a difficult one of long standing and obscure symptoms—was that of a young lady into whose side an inclusion was made and a diseased kidney was treated. The incision was then sewed up, and she is now recovering, suffering no pain or inconvenience whatever. From the Baltimore American

covering, suffering no pain or inconvenience whatever.

This difficult and painful as well as dangerous operation was done while the patient was under hypnotic suggestion, being hypnotical by one of the medical staff. The patient was in the hypnotic state for about half an hour, and when seen at the hospital yesterday was delighted with the sucress of the experiment, declaring she felt no pain or consciousness whatever when the operation was 'n progress, saye that she had a confused and not unpleasant impression that some one stood by her side and was cutting paper with a pair of seissors. After consciousness had returned she said she felt the natural pain consequent to any surgical operation done while under ordinary anastheties. Hypnosis, in her case, was limited only to the time it required for the operation. It is, however, possible to continue the suggestion until the patient is out of all pain.

United States Government Grant Making Homes Happier.

The wonderful cures that have been effected at Ho-Springs, Arkonsas, by its world-famed Healing Waters are truly miraculous. They almost require evidence to be credited. Thousands and tens of thou sands of patients who, from all sections of the world have there been cured of libermatism, (fout, Scrofuls, Paralysis, acquired or hereditary, likeoil Poisons, and all other diseases arising from an impure state or low condition of the Blood, are living testimonials of its

If people cannot go to Hot Springs, Arkansas, they can now have this same treatment at their home for one dollar per bottle by asking their drumslats for "Pura Blood," which contains the Celebrated Cura tive Waters of Hot Springs, Arkansas, under grant from the United States Government. Physicians en-dorse "Pura Blood." Billups & Co., of 20 Cortandt Street, New York, are Sole Agents, and will send be-

MRS. RUNNETT'S ODD DEATH **A New Year** Gift.

LOOK for our announcement in The Press on New Year's Day. It will be of great interest to pen-users. Caw's Salety Fountain Pens are conquering the pen-using world. Il you wish your name to remain a pleasant memory with iriends during the new year, and for many years to follow, present them with a Caw's "Safety'

Fountain Pen. It's a SAFE and proper thing to do

CAW'S PEN AND INK CO. 168 Broadway, New York. The Largest Fountain Pen Establishment

without a doubt.

IN THE WORLD.

JACK EXEBITS FOR COURSING.

Hare for that Purpose, From the Philadelphia Times. The sport of rabbit coursing is receiving a new impetus since the Kansas black-tailed jack rabbit has entered the arena. Not until quite reently has the coursing fraternity been aware of the great superiority of the jack over the cottontail rabbit or the English hare for this purpose. Kansas jack rabbits are now greatly in demand, both in this country and in England. and live ones command a good price. The difficulty in catching them alive is very great, and only one man in Kansas, so far as known, has given his undivided attention to the work.

the West as a hunter and plainsman, has been a jack rabbit enthusiast for years, and it is largely through his efforts that the merits of the antmal for coursing purposes have become so generally recognized. The capture of live tacks involves the purchase of a great deal of expensive paraphernalla. Mr. l'ayne has two nets made of seine twine, five feet in height, which, when both are extended, reach almost across a section, and made expressly for catching live jacks. His method of entrapping the live facks is unique. It is his usual custom, when preparing for the raid upon the rabbits, to advertise among the farmer boys the day upon which the lack rabbit drive is to take place. At the appointed time hundreds of country boys, mounted on ponies, flock to the rendezvoits, armed with forherns, drains, bells, and anything else that will make discordant music. They are deployed in a semicircular line two miles in front of the net, and at a given signal from the marshal of the day the line moves toward the net, each man making all the noise possible. If the hunting grounds have been well selected the hustenness will have no trouble in "bouncing" rabbits innumerable, and as they scamper away toward the net, followed pell-meil by the eager farmer boys, the scene is one of great animation. The rabbits, if they do not become confused by the noise and excitement, bound away toward the net at almost lightning speed, and many of them strike the net so hard that they break their necks. Those that survive the shock scamper into the pocksis which are inventiously arranged for their reception, and for them the lig is up. Rabbits sometimes sile with fright, not having sufficient strength to make the race for life.

These rambit drives are among the most popular svorts in which the prairle farmers indules, and it is customary for the organizer of the drive to provide a bounteous surend for his gratitious helper. made of seine twine, five feet in height, which, when both are extended, reach almost acros

PEW POSTMEN ON WHEELS.

Bleycles Used Occasionally by Carriers of Special Belivery Letters. The running down of a woman by a letter

carrier on a bicycle in a comparatively crowded part of the town recently, would seem to indicate that wheels were generally used by post This is not the case. An attempt was made to use them in the annexed district, bu the roads were found to be too bad, and their use for the shorter distances further down town was not considered advisable.

Two or three substitute postmen, who own heyeles, use them, however, when entrusted with special delivery letters, or when they have a long way to go without stopping. When the roads above the ifarlem are improved the Post Office may buy wheels and mount the letter carriers who have long distances to travel, as has been done in some other cities.

What, Handsomer than Cov. Morton's

From the Mt. Steraing Guartte. For the first time in the history of Kentucky every member of the Governor's staff will be

uniformed. On all State occasions every member of Gov. Bradley's staff will appear in full regulation uniform. When the Governor takes an important trip through the State or to any an important trip through the State or to any other State, he can be dut with pride to the handsomest set of men on the staff of any dovernor in the United States, and more than that the handsomest uniformed body of men attending any dovernor in the country. These uniforms will be handsome in the extreme, and owing to the physical proportions of every member of the new staff, nandsome uniforms will be becoming.

HER BODY IN THE AREAWAY OF A. A. NELLIS'S HOUSE. Neille's Card Was in her Pocket, and the Woman's Niece Says Her Aimt Knew Him-This Neille Bentes-Cause of Beath Not Known She Had Been Despondent, The body of a handsome, well-dressed woman, which was subsequently identified as being that of Mrs. John A. Runnett of 233 West Forty-ninth street, wife of John A. Runnett, former treasurer of Niblo's Garden, was found in the areaway of the residence of Albert A. Nellis, 251 West Seventy-sixth street, at half past 9 o'clock last evening. It was removed to the West Sixty-eighth street police station. A card was found in her pocketbook with her name and address on it. In response to a message sent to the house. Miss Lilly G. Harney, a niece of the dead wom an, came to the station house. She said that her aunt, who had been despondent over some real estate transactions, had left the house at 8 clock and boarded a down-town cable car. She said that some time ago Mrs. Runnett, while suffering from melancholia, had threat-ened to take her life. When the body was searched in the station house a razor was found in the woman's bosom and some powders in small packages were in her pocketbook; also a card of Albert A. Nellis.

Neills, in whose areaway she was found, denied that he knew the woman. Her niece, when asked if she knew Nellis, said yes, that he was a friend of Mrs. Runnett; and when told that her body was found on his premises she denounced him and said the matter should be investigated, but refused to give any reasons. Mr. Nellis disclaimed any knowledge of the woman, and said he never knew her or any

member of her family, and could not account for his card being in her pocketbook. The body was found by his cook. There are no external signs on it which would suggest the cause of

ENGLAND'S GREED.

She Cares Less for Her Settlers Than for the Yellow Metal to Venezuela.

From the Pittsburgh Lispatch. The richness of the Venezuelan gold mines, in the region to which Great Britain lays claim, was the subject of an interesting talk by Wil-liam F. Harrison last evening. Mr. Harrison says that the gold country is entirely covered by the latest British claim, and it is evidently to secure this mineral wealth that the shifting boundary line of British Guiana has been bulged away out to the west, cutting a huge slice, shaped like the hole a hungry boy makes in a piece of broad right out of makes in a piece of breau right out of
the side of the Venezuelan territory. Mr.
Harrison is by profession a mechanical
engineer. In 1874 he went to Venezuela as the
superintendent of a steamer line, owned by an
American company, which ran boats from Trinidad up the Orinoco River as far as the old city
of Bolivar. Afterward he became interested in
a gold mine, of which Remington, the gun
maker, of Ilion, N. Y., is the principal owner.

"The gold mining region," said Mr. Harrison,
"is on the Yuruari River, in weatern Venezuela, in what is called Yuruary Territory. That
river flows into the Cuyuni or Guiana River,
Within a radius of nine miles there were then
ten or eleven mines in operation, besides a numbor of small individual camps, where men did
placer mining or washed in the streams,
"The quartz there is exceedingly rich in free
gold. You can take a lump of it, break it apart
like clay, and pick out little pieces of pure gold
larger than a pea. Outside of the quartz veins
gold is found in the earth or rock for several
feet or yards on either side. You can find it
along the river banks and in the soil under the
forest trees,
"One day I and a friend, a Western miner, the side of the Venezuelan territory. Mr.

lect or yards on either side. You can find it along the river banks and in the soil under the forest trees.

"One day I and a friend, a Western miner, went down the Yuruari in askiff, and, mainly out of curlosity, rowed up a little stream that flowed into the river from the southwest. We had not gone far when we found along the hank what we called good signs. We pulled our boat up and went exploring in the thicket. We came upon a miner's cabin, where there had been digging for gold many years ago. There was no longer a roof on the hut, and two trees of good size had grown through the floor.

"That cabin had probably been cocupied by early Spanish adventurers, perhaps 200 or 300 years ago. Men who walk in the forest at nig't are in danger of falling into pits made by miners who worked only with a pick and with a shovel. The larger mines are shafts. The one I was connected with was more than 200 feet down when I left there.

"Gold is not the only precious mineral found."

connected with was more than 200 feet down when I left there.

"Gold is not the only precious mineral found there. The Indians used to come down from the mountains carrying pure gold and quick-silver, which they traded for whiskey. They are much like our Western Indians, only lazier. They will not tell where they get the quicksilver, although the miners would very much like to know.

are much like our Western Indians, only lazier, they will not tell where they get the quicksliver, although the miners would very much like to know.

"In the northern point of the disputed territory, near the mouth of the Orinoco, there are valuable from mines, but I am not well acquainted with that section.

"All that country is very rich, but there is little nariculture. Some angar cane is grown and some cocoa. The chief industry is castle raising. From Guasapati, in the mining region, toward Upail, nearly 150 miles to the north-west, there is a great stretch of pumpas almost devoted to cattle grazing. They are raised principally for their hides, and the carcasses are frequently alle wed to go to waste. The land is owned in great tracts by rich Venezuelans, who employ scores and even hundreds of peons. The hilly country is covered by thick forests of lardwood, exceedingly valuable for some bridges or railroad ties. Most of it will tear the tech out of a saw and is impervious to a plaue.

"At the time I was there no doubt existed concerning the governmental jurisdiction over this region. It was all under Venezuelan rule, firthish line was more than 150 miles to the cast of the mining country. Now England chaims a great tract of land more than threa hundred miles wide, which was twenty years ago indisputably under Venezuelan rule. It takes in all the headwaters of the Cuyani and Yuruari, with the great hardwood forests, the fertile pampas and the rich mines of gold.

"The Venezuelan soldiers are strangely clad and grotsquely equipped. When I was at Gusapapati a little rebellion was going on, and one day a troop of Venezuelan lancers rode into the town, and spot the night on the piaza, or public square. The privates were all barefooted. They wore no uniform. Some had pants and some had not. Some had shirts and some lad not. A few wore short jackets and their headgent was strangely various. Those who had shirts were them outside of their was defined that and some had not. A few wore short jackets and their headge Charles Payne, familiarly known throughout

of the lance on the bare right foot.

"They wore no uniform. Some had pants and some had not. Some had shirts and some had not. A few were short jackets and their headnot. A few were short jackets and their headshirts were them outside of their pants and held shirts were them outside of their pants and held in at the waist with a belt. The officers had some sort of uniform and carried swords. They were too lary or too tired to remove the addles from their horses and use them as pillows.

"Once when I was in one of the citles on the north coast I went to the theatre with the American Minister to see a French company play 'La Duchesse. The theatre had no roof, and each visitor had to carry with him his own chair or rent one outside of the enclosure. From the side walls there were projecting timbers, where it had probably been intended to build a gallery.

"On one of these timbers a soldier was perched with his musket in hand. I went over to him and studied him. The barrel of nis musket was covered with rust, the stock was worm-eater, and part of the lock was gone. I described the weapon to the American Minister, and he said he would like to have it as a curlosity. I tried to buy it, but nothing would induce for shooting purposes.

"As a matter of fact the soldiers there do not depend very much upon their firearms. Their preat weapon is the machete, as in Cuba. It is the knife used for cutting sugar cane. Most of the soldiers there is the would probably throw away their guns after having fired them once and would are their machetes, which are terrible weapons at close quarters. Since I left they would go into battle would probably throw away their guns after having fired them once and would income their machetes, which are terrible weapons at close quarters. Since I left they would go into battle would probably throw away their guns after having fired them once and would draw their machetes, which are terrible weapons at close quarters. Since I left they however, I understand that the army has been greatly improve

Never Spent a Cent for Matches.

They say there is a man who resides near Maben, in this county, who prides himself on his sconnay, and the other day when discussing his favorite topic he remarked that he had saved several dollars in matches. "Why." he said. "when I came to Mississippi, hearly forty years ago, I brought my fire with me, and I have kept the same fire ever since, never allowing it to die out, and during all this time have never spent one cent for matches." From the Starkville Times.

PIPERAZIN GOUT. WATER All Druggists. LEHN & FINK, New York, A